

## **Veneta Park Board**

Minutes of August 3, 2005

5pm, Veneta City Hall

Board Members present: Earle Ellson, Judy Colvard, Ruth Germaine, Sharon Hobart-Hardin, and Gail Wilkie

Council Present: Marion Esty

Staff members present: Margaret Boutell, and Denny Capps

I. Public Comment: Attending meeting were Mr. Jim Petty, Mr. Sterling Pew, of the TSP Board and Mr. Dennis Broom from the Library Board

II. Approval of Minutes: Approved after correction of several spelling errors of names, noted that Gail Wilkie had not attended the last meeting, Also, as noted in "IIIB" that the Boys & Girls Club need \$150,000 per year to run and \$400,000 to improve buildings (also mentioned was possibility of the Boys& Girls club merging with the Eugene Kidsports Group). Also be it noted that in #2 Non-Fiscal: "B", CIP stands for Capital Improvement Plan: #"D" should be clarified as efforts to acquire the property on N. Bolton Rd.

IIIA. Work Program/Master Plan: Guest speakers from the Territorial Sports Park Association were Mr. Sterling Pew (main speaker) and Mr. Jim Petty. It was stated that the City owns the front half of the TSP site and that the Forest Department owns the back half. Further, that TSP has fundraised \$6,000.00 so far towards that land purchase. Mr. Petty made strong point that the TSP site on Bolton Road is a major Community gathering and socializing spot having an eclectic cross-section of our town present where information for the community can be quickly and well dispersed. Mr. Pew reviewed what the TSP Board has started towards our partnering together on this project. I.e., they have contacted the University of Oregon, Eugene for an artist to prepare an artistic rendering of the Bolton Field Site, The Chambers Media Foundation has been contacted in preparation for a grant,

Mr. Greg Demers, Arlie of Rays Mkt., Burt Bab, and Larry Coni of Swanson's have been contacted and may do more in the future. Mr. Pew and the TSP Board would very much like to get the West Lane Newspaper on board in a partner relationship for highlighted coverage of the coming effort to achieve this site acquisition for the youth of this community. They would like our Park Board to give them input on what and how to do the land acquisition and for us to please attend their next Kick -Off meeting in late August. Earle and Sharon will represent us at that meeting. Gail will contact the newspapers (W.Lane & Register Guard) to enlist their partnership with us, stressing our need for them to take a partnership relationship in this endeavor, as we will need their frequent coverage to keep up Public Interest. It is also noted that the Ford Foundation who helped the Library is taking a deeper interest in the Fern Ridge region and projects. The time line for the Grant writing can be noted on the handout from Margaret i.e., Start Grant process in October and have it completed for submission in December. There were many different fundraising ideas discussed and these will be taken to the coming TSP meeting. Mr. Pew also relayed to us that they hold an annual April Auction, which generated \$8-10,000.00/year. TSP is self-sufficient: they have approximately \$30,000 of the \$67,000 they need for their yearly operating budget (a large part of that being in insurance fees). In summary:

The Park Advisory Board gives full support to the TSP Board and the “go ahead” for fundraising. Sharon will be our liaison with TSP.

IIIB Sharon suggests we look at what our needs are, prioritize them, and get the CIP organized before the Grant writing begins. So we will wait until the TSP late August meeting to see what their confirmed information is. Margaret also says that we need to get a current survey and appraisal of the site to be purchased to “know” how the amount that is truly needed for land acquisition. She says it will be appraised by Nov. 1st (see handout), and the cost for that appraisal will be split with the Forrest District and the City. As noted by Sharon, Mr. Brain Issa is a student working with the city on Systems Development Charge (SDC”s) relating to housing developers donating land as well as the Parks SDC fee. Yes, we can have both a fee AND a land donation. It will take a Public Hearing process to update city regulations. He also wants to come to the next Park Board meeting. He will bring maps of Land sites we wish to move forward with. It would be helpful if Park Board Members will look at needed “improvements” i.e., wish list: new pool, etc. The city must start with a “certain standard” of provision to the public...this process will take until the end of December.

IV. Park Assessments: Sharon referred to her previously prepared summary of the first three parks and notes that the Greenway project has been started in process but not in physical work. The “Still to do “ list is still to do. Also, it is the consensus to reinvigorate existing parks and developed a Volunteer Program “Adopt a Park” program. Denny was present for consultation and clarification. He states that the Oregon National Parks and Recreation maintenance Department may be able to do the “assembly” of any playground equipment that we purchase. Margaret reports that the Liability Insurance needed for the volunteers expected to be generated by the to be formed “Volunteer Committee Coordinator” will be covered under the City’s existing policy as they will be deemed “agents” of the city. However, Medical insurance is not available to cover the volunteer’s “co-pay” amount on any private policy they may have. As the Volunteer Program is formed, among its necessary forms will have to be one for a “Liability Waiver” which volunteers will be asked to sign. Ruth reports that she talked to Larry Larson about volunteers from his Theater Group helping to fundraise and partner with us by doing costumed community fundraisers. This will be helpful in showing broad community support and effort for our Grant proposal. Sharon says that Mike Zdroy is doing an archival search on “How to develop Land development and donation programs for the Parks. Denny wishes to tell everyone that his helpers, Josh and Cody are doing a great job. Also, the recent “Safety on Wheels” event was very well received and there are noticeable amounts of children wearing safety helmets while using bikes, skateboards etc since then.

V. Guest speaker, Mr. Dennis Broom came to meeting to find out what the city’s intention for the undeveloped wedge lot on W. Bolton Rd. was. We told him that currently it may be used for a detention pond for run off water. Also, that we have been discussing various uses for it and that it was scheduled for next months meeting. He requests, and made very good points, that it be designated as a “Dog Park” where people could take their dogs to let them run and play. His idea was well received. He also told us, being on the Library Board, that there will be a “Volunteer/Friends Appreciation Day” at the library on Saturday, August 27th and invited us to place a display there relating to the future plans of the parks. Judy will pick up a display map to be mounted and set on an easel at that function and also to photocopy and have on display a stack of the newly revised “Neighborhood Park Letter” asking for input on use, improvements desired, and possible volunteer involvement of the local residents for each park.

VI. Plan for next meeting: we will meet on Wednesday, Sept 7th at 4:30pm (return to our original time slot). Each of the Parks was adopted by a member and we will concentrate our individual efforts thusly:

**Park Adoptive Member**

Oak Island Park Sharon Hobart-Harding & Gail Wilkie

Ralph Johnson Park Judy Colvard

5th St. Park Robert Ladke

City Park(pool) Ruth Germaine

Territorial (skate) Park Earle Ellson

Also, Mr. Brian Issa will be reporting on SCD's and Land Donation Program. Sharon and Earl will report on TSP Board meeting.

Phone Numbers:

Judy Colvard 935-3311 Ruth Germaine 935-6352 Gail Wilkie 935-5615

Sharon Hobart-Hardin 935-8352 Robert Ladke 935-2737

Marion Esty 935-2442 Earle Ellson 935-0742 Larry Larson 935-6329

Margaret Boutell, Ric Ingham & Dennis Capps/Veneta City Hall 935-2191

(fax-541-935-1838)

Judy